7.	Secretary, Ministry of Welfare	Member
8.	Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development . . .	Member
9.	Secretary, Department of Health Ministry of Health . . .	Member
10.	Secretary, Department of Family Welfare Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Member
11.	Secretary, Ministry of I & B	Member
12.	Director Incharge of Child Labour, Ministry of Labour .	Member-Secretary

The functions of the National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour will be :—

(i) to lay down the policies and programme for elimination of child labour particularly in hazardous employments.

(ii) to monitor the progress of implementation of programmes, project and schemes for elimination of child labour.

(iii) to co-ordinate implementation of child labour elimination related projects of the various sister Ministries of the Government of India.

ORDER

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all the Members. Ordered also that the Resolution be published in the Gazette of India for general information.

Sd/- S. Gopalan
Secretary to Government of India

To

The Manager,
Government of India Press
Ring Road, Mayapuri Industrial Area, New Delhi.

Monitoring of prices of essential commodities

*71. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had selected 12 essential commodities to keep a regular watch on their prices availability, shortages etc;

(b) if so, the details of these items and the reasons for not placing a watch on more essential items;

(c) if so, what are the details of the selling prices of these 12 items prevailing at present and how did these compare with the prices in each of the last 12 months;

(d) the details of the items whose prices kept on rising and the status of their availability ; and

(e) the details of the items which have not been made available to the consumers through the outlets of the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar and the steps taken to ensure their availability at all times in all the branches ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPLLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rice, Wheet, Arhar dal, Gram dal, Potatoes, Onions, Tea

ugar, Salt, Vanaspati, Groundnut il and Mustard oil are the 12 ssential commodities selected by the Government for the purpose.

The Government keeps a regular vatch on the prices, availability and hortages of all essential commodities n general and the above mentioned 2 essential commodities in particular ecause of their price sensitivity. he list of essential commodities is eviewed from time to time keeping 1 view the price and availability ituation.

(c) A comparative statement indiating the retail prices of 12 essential ommodities at selected centres is iven in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 72. Annexure No. 1503].

(d) The price situation and the vailability of most of the essential ommodities during the past 12 ionths has generally remained itisfactory. Due to the existing gap etween the demand and supply of igar, edible oils and pulses, the nport of these commodities has been ut under Open General Licence OGL) so as to augment their upplies in the country.

(e) The Super Bazar and the endriya Bhandar sell almost all ie essential commodities through ieir retail outlets/branches and the vailability of such commodities is naintained at satisfactory level.

ssessment of Consumer Courts under Consumer Protection Act, 1986

*72. SHRI AAS MOHAMMAD:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL UPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFARS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have iade any assessment of the working f the consumer courts under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases filed in Consumer Courts during the year 1993-94, state-wise;

(d) the backlog of pending cases as on data, State-wise; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to clear the backlog ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The working of the consumer courts set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was discussed in the first All India Conference of the Presidents and Members of the State Commissions held on 24th January, 1994 where Statewise position was reviewed and States were asked to provide for adequate infrastructure, staff and funds. The position was also reviewed in the last meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Parliament attached to the Ministry held on 24-11-94.

(c) and (d) The Ministry compiles such information on quarterly basis. Based on the information received from the State Governments, a statement has been compiled and is given in Annexure [*See* Appendix 172 Annexure no. 16].

(e) Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provided for setting up of additional District Fora in a district depending upon the work load. However, the responsibility of setting up of additional District Forum lies with the State Government. All the state governments have been asked to monitor the disposal of pending cases in the consumer courts and take necessary steps to ensure smooth functioning of these fora.